AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WHOLE NO. 1957 | WILLIAM GREEN, President | WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1948 | GEORGE MEANY, Secretary-Treasurer | VOL. 38, NO. 41

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

LABOR'S GOAL! To Repeal Taft-Hartley Law

Marshall Stresses Labor's Role In ERP In Addressing European Labor Leaders

Paris.—Secretary of State George C. Marshall stressed the fact that labor must play a major role in order to assure the effectiveness of the European Recovery Program as an aid to world peace.

Addressing 40 labor leaders from a dozen European nations at a private luncheon meeting here, Mr. Marshall described production as "the key to European recovery" and added that "you don't get production until you get organized trade unions."

The Secretary told the labor representatives most of whom are members of the trade union conference formed earlier this year to promote the Marshall Plan, that since March, 1947, there has been "great, definite progress" in Europe's recovery, Practically every country has exceeded its production target, and some nations have exceeded their goals by as much as 48 percent.

"What you are fighting for is not just peace," Mr. Marshall said, "but a type of peace in which an individual or a trade union is free to meet as it pleases and to say what it pleases. This is about as far from a police state as you can get."

"No group is so dependent on the freedoms of assembly, speech and opportunity as a labor union. Your very life depends on these freedoms."

Throughout his 45-minute extemporaneous address, Mr. Marshall gave a background account of the birth of the European Recovery Program and went on to review the current Berlin crisis and its implications.

He declared that the greatest strength and the greatest hope for maintaining peace over the present uncertainty in Europe is that "we are a great nation, standing solidly together."

"There have been criticisms of the actions of these 3 nations in referring the Berlin question to the Security Council of the United Nations," he observed, "but we are moving forward with an alternative."

In reviewing the history of the Berlin situation, Mr. Marshall declared that there has been "a long series of provocative acts since last March," and added that "almost any one of these acts, 30 years ago, could have been the basis for a world war."

He pointed out that the western powers had followed these provocative acts by making "every conceivable effort to settle the Berlin question through peaceful negotiations," which, he said, were "completely thwarted."

The Berlin question was taken to the United Nations so that the facts could be presented to the world, the Secretary asserted. Had we remained silent, he declared, "a black cloud of menace would have spread over the entire continent of Europe."

Harrison Says Hartley Reveals Anti-Labor Plans

Washington.—The Republican Party's plans to shackle the nation's workers and wage earners with new legislation even more oppressive than the Taft-Hartley law is disclosed in a new book written by Representative Fred A. Hartley (R., N. J.) it was charged here by George M. Harrison, chairman of Labor's Committee for National Security.

The GOP's long range union-busting plan has been put under temporary wraps until after the presidential election, declared Harrison, who is also president of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks.

"Hartley says his regret is that the Taft-Hartley Act doesn't complete the job the Republican Party set out to do," said Harrison. "After the Taft-Hartley bill was passed, he states, the Republican leaders of both the House and Senate decided that no more legislation to which organized labor could possibly object would be passed until after the next presidential election of 1948.

"This explains the failure of the Republican platform to deal with labor issues in specific terms. The glowing generalities of the Republican labor plank," Harrison continued, "left no doubt in the public mind as to what they really are: an attempt to deceive the voters by concealing their evil purpose to destroy the trade unions."

Hartley has performed his "first real service" to the American people, Harrison asserted, "by revealing to the voters the Republican Party plans in November would thrust the working people of America back into the Republican days of slavery.

"While trade union members have not doubted the Republican intention to destroy their trade unions, many have underestimated the scheme and the degrading sweatshop conditions under which they suffered before the enactment of the Wagner Act by a Democratic administration. Representative Hartley's revelations will convince all fairminded voters that the Republicans are unfit to hold the reigns of government," Harrison said.

Political Group Formed In Hollywood; Backs Truman, Pledges Fight On Reds

Hollywood, Calif.—Representatives of 21 AFL unions here formed the independent League of Hollywood Voters and pledged themselves to work for the reelection of President Harry S. Truman, and to carry on a fight against Communism.

Ronald Reagan, prominent screen actor and president of the AFL's Screen Actors Guild, was elected chairman of the group. Serving as vice chairman is Roy Brewer, international representative for the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes.

In a statement describing the league as a non-partisan, pro-American, pro-labor group, the union leaders set forth the following objectives for the organization:

"1. To secure the maximum support for Harry S. Truman, and such candidates who uphold a free, democratic labor movement in the coming crucial contest.

"2. To work and advise unwary individuals who otherwise might support labor's false friends—the false friends who would use the fight against the Taft-Hartley law as an issue to hook labor and pro-labor forces into voting for enemies of the United States and agents of corrupt totalitarianism.

"3. To enlighten the voters on the real issues and the motives of the candidates in the 1948 campaign. This will be done through providing voters with the records of all candidates, so they may determine which office seekers are sympathetic to America and a free labor movement.

"4. To provide a forum for public discussion of the issues; to secure speakers who can bring a view of these issues to the industrial organizations, unions and other groups for the single-minded purpose of defeating labor and its friends to get out the vote for Harry Truman and our program on election day.

"5. And, finally, to unite the science, effective and genuinely progressive forces behind the dynamic drive to fighting relentlessly against any Communist influence in industry in America, and fighting strongly for the Truman Labor Pilot movement means a free America."

Pledging support to those political leaders of any party who recognize and serve the ideals of the league, the statement declared that "does not permit an American labor to be free. American labor under the Taft-Hartley Act is so shackled that it cannot even release those Communists which have crept into its own ranks."

It declared that the "immediate job" of the new league is to "begin organizing labor and its friends into a fighting unit for reelection of President Harry S. Truman and other proved friends of labor."

RADIO LOG

Here is a lineup of interesting and punchy radio programs which will be broadcast over nation-wide hookups during the balance of the month of October. This is "must" listening for all members of the AFL and their friends. The programs are sponsored by AFL and its affiliates. All times are Eastern Standard Time and the date that of the origination of the program. Since some of these programs will be rebroadcast at a later time or at a later date in a number of cities, especially in the Western time zones, please consult your daily newspaper for the exact time of presentation in your community.

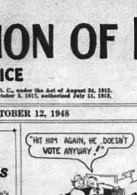
Oct. 17	America United NBC Network— 1 to 1:30 p.m., EST.	Radio Forum on "Labor and Foreign Policy"
Oct. 18	Serenade for Strings ABC Network— 10:45 to 11 p.m., EST.	Music With a Message From the AFL
Oct. 21	Political Broadcast ABC Network— 10 to 10:15 p.m., EST.	Campaign Talk Sponsored by ILGWU
Oct. 24	America United NBC Network— 1 to 1:30 p.m., EST.	Radio Forum on "Why Bother to Vote?"
Oct. 26	Special Political Program ABC Network— 10 to 10:30 p.m., EST.	Talks by Labor Leaders Entertainment from Hollywood
Oct. 26	Serenade for Strings ABC Network— 10:45 to 11 p.m., EST.	Music With a Message From the AFL
Oct. 27	Political Broadcast ABC Network— 10:45 to 11 p.m., EST.	Talk by George Meany
Oct. 28	Political Broadcast ABC Network— 10:15 to 10:30 p.m., EST.	Campaign Talk Sponsored by ILGWU
Oct. 31	America United NBC Network 1 to 1:30 p.m., EST.	Radio Forum on "The Election Issues"

HIGH COURT TO INTERPRET IMPACT OF 8-HOUR LAW

Washington.—The Supreme Court will rule on the question of whether the federal 8-hour law applies to work done in a foreign country under a contract between the United States and a private contractor.

The law requires contractors with the United States to pay time-and-a-half, the basic rate of pay for work over 8 hours daily. Frank Paul Fiorato, a cook, won a decision in the Supreme Court of New York County that the law applied to his work in Florida. He was employed by Fiorato Brothers, Inc., and Fiorato Bros. & Frenia, Inc. The concerns built roads, buildings and airports in the Middle East during the last war.

Fiorato won an award of $2,496 overtime pay, "at $650 interest. The Justice Department appealed the decision to the high tribunal, explaining that the concerns had a contract under which the Army would have to pay the overtime award. The department said also the decision might open the way for the filing of many similar claims.



High Court Affirms Overtime Decision; Acts In Other Cases

Washington.—The Supreme Court refused to review the earlier ruling that employers must include premium pay for night and holiday work in computing overtime.

In a 5 to 3 decision the court rejected the government's request for a review of the "narrow" interpretation the case on grounds that the court's previous decision was "erroneous" and "virtually impossible to carry out."

Backing the government's stand, the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations-Association had filed briefs with the court urging that the case be reconsidered.

Two other labor cases on which the court acted were: Labor's appeal for a rehearing in the union-busting case of the United States Circuit Court in Cincinnati that a union must resign with the union representing its employees before awarding individual merit raises in pay. The refusal to review was in effect a victory for the lower court.

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2. Declined to review a decision of the United States Circuit Court in Cincinnati which held that a union must resign its bargaining authority before it can petition for a representation election.

3. Declined to review a decision of the Circuit Court in New Orleans which the wage-hour administrator had cast serious doubt on the validity of, numerous injunctions against employers who failed to pay the Fair Standards Act. The Circuit Court held the union was not "unlawfully" engaged in a concerted refusal to perform services.

4. Declined to review an Illinois Appellate Court decision that a local of the AFL Teamsters Union acted unlawfully when it "induced" truckers passing to filing stations whose operators were not members of the union.

IMPROVEMENT IN TRAINING IS GOAL OF APPRENTICE HEAD

Washington. — Apprenticeship in crafts is setting all time records, but the quality of apprentice training needs improvement, Frank Bertsch, seaman, labor department director of apprenticeship, said here.

Patterson said there are 193,750 apprentices in all crafts in the construction industry. He said improvement is available in selection of apprentice applicants, actual job training, and in plans for determining results attained toward completion of apprentice work.

AFL OFFICIAL JOURNAL CARRIES VOTING GUIDE

Washington.—The current issue of the AFL's official monthly journal, "American Federationist," carries a complete record of how each and every member of the 80th Congress voted on 12 key issues affecting organized labor.

The tabulation of voting records is presented as a public service as part of the AFL's campaign to make information available in order that voters may exercise their franchise at the polls in an intelligent manner.

Taft-Hartley Law Attacked By Truman; Supported By Dewey In Campaign Talks

Akron.—President Truman pledged here that he will work for repeal of the Taft-Hartley law, and lauded the accomplishments of the New Deal.

Speaking here after a whirlwind trip through Ohio, the Chief Executive labeled his opponent, Governor Thomas E. Dewey, as the GOP's "chief prosecutor" in its attack on Roosevelt laws and charged that he would destroy the New Deal.

Speaking before a capacity audience in the armory here, Mr. Truman declared that the Republican Congress began its assault on the New Deal by converting the Wagner Act, one of the "basic laws" of the conference, "into an instrument for union busting by antilabor employers."

The President quoted Representative Fred Hartley as saying in a recent book that the Taft-Hartley law was "conceived, written and passed" to "eliminate the outstanding mistakes of the New Deal," said communism.

"Do you get that? The Republicans have come right out in the open—the power of the working man, and they call it a mistake—the mistake of the New Deal."

He pledged he would not only repeal the Taft-Hartley Act and pre-more anti-labor laws for political ends.

"It was used," he said, "to set labor out from the rest of our people. It was used as an instrument for cruelty to all uncovered groups, insecure in insurance benefits 50 percent, expand national health facilities, provide fed- ially to cross many of the bitter problems which have done such grievous injury both to labor and to the welfare of the country as a whole."

Pittsburgh.—Thomas E. Dewey, Republican candidate for the presidency, indorsed the Taft-Hartley law as a courageous measure which he's served to reduce strikes by 50 percent.

In a speech before 10,000 people who jammed Hunt Armory here, Mr. Dewey attacked the Truman administration for its "bungling" and "blundering."

The GOP spokesman declared the Taft-Hartley law would be changed when changes were needed, but made no specific suggestions or promises concerning such changes. Defending the measure, he said:

"It does insure that collective bargaining is recognized and that the wage earner has an inalienable right to quit his job. It provides for safeguarding these principles against the abuses which incompetent, frightened men may do to them as this administration tried to do in the railroad strike."

Mr. Dewey declared that "labor relations are better today than they have ever been before."

He said the Wagner Act, passed in the Roosevelt administration, was also beginning to settle"labor's problems, but he added, those in charge of the government soon came to use it more and more for political purposes.

"It was used," he said, "to set labor up as a class apart from the rest. It was used as an instrument for cruelty to all uncovered groups, insecure in insurance benefits 50 percent, expand national health facilities, provide fed- ially to cross many of the bitter problems which have done such grievous injury both to labor and to the welfare of the country as a whole."

LLPE Branch Maps Fight For Defeat of T-H Backers

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
New York Correspondent for AFL News Service

New York.—The biggest local branch in America of Labor's League for Political Education is putting the finishing touches on a campaign ever seen in New York City to elect a list of candidates who have distinctly pledged to work for the repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act.

This campaign includes the appointment of AFL officials as election district or precinct captains, borough-wide rallies, the widest possible dissemination of the local LLPE's recommendations and that most important of all factors, a personal appearance by the head of the AFL member in the districts where crucial congressional races are now under way.

The LLPE branch at a meeting of 250 delegates from AFL unions here unanimously decided to endorse candidates who are opposed to the Taft-Hartley law was clean, without regard for party label.

In an opening speech, Joseph Keenan, labor member of labor were "holding their punches" temporarily. He said:

"You saw the game when the NAM didn't spend millions of dollars and Ian Washington with lobbyists to pass this law without something vicious really happening. We haven't seen anything yet what we will see unless these political acrobats who have been kicking labor around for the last two years are defeated at the polls this fall."

The local LLPE branch voted to pay special attention to the race in the 20th congressional district, New York County, where incumbent Christopher C. McGrath is running against David Potts, Republican incumbent, who has opposed organized labor on every major issue before the House.

So opposed is Potts to labor, it was pointed out, that when a big election sign—union-made—was hung outside his campaign headquarters, he ordered it taken down because it bore the name of the union sign. Pickets from the AFL Sign-Makers Local who surrounded his headquarters in protest quickly persuaded him to put the sign back where it was with the original one bearing a union label.

Following the appointment of endorsements, Howard McSpadon, president of the Building Trades and Construction Council of New York, told the delegates that it was time for them to "translate their endorsements and not pay lip-service."

"We've got to get out and deliver. Just passing resolutions isn't doesn't mean a thing. We've got to act and we've got to act fast and efficiently and crush the word out in the district," he said.

Among the Congressmen endorsed for election by the LLPE branch were:

Manhattan Congressional Districts

Arthur T. Sawyer, 17th; John P. Morrisey, 18th; Arthur G. Klein, 19th; Sol Bloom, 20th; Jacob K. Javits, 21st.

Brooklyn Congressional Districts

John J. Delaney, 7th; Joseph L. Pfeifer, 8th; Eugene J. Keogh, 9th; Andrew L. Somers, 10th; Emanuel Celler, 11th; Hugh Peterson, 12th; Donald L. O'Toole, 13th; Abraham J. Multer, 14th; Emanuel Celler, 15th.

Bronx Congressional Districts

Walter A. Lynch, 23rd; Isidore Dollinger, 24th; Charles A. Buckley, 25th; Christopher C. McGrath, 26th.

Queens Congressional Districts

George J. Gross, 6th; L. Gary Clemente, 6th; E. Vincent Quinn, 5th; James J. Delaney, 6th.

$2,000 In Prizes Offered Labor Groups For Effectiveness In Getting Out Vote

Washington.—Two thousand dollar- ians in cash prizes is being offered by the independent Labor's Committee for Truman and Barkley in a nation-wide contest for the best job done by a labor-political committee in getting out the vote.

First prize of $1,000 will go to that local labor political committee in any political subdivision of 15,000 population or more, in which the percentage of votes cast for President Truman is the highest percentage of improvement over the number of votes cast for President Roosevelt in the same district in 1944.

Second prize of $500 will go to the local labor political committee in the district with the second best standing in the same test.

Third prize consisting of $100 each will be given to the five local committees in that group in the next best percentage improvement in the Truman and Barkley vote.

A special prize of $100 will be given to the labor committee in that precinct part of the district winning the $1,000 prize, where the most favorable presidential vote is recorded.

The contest was announced by Acting Chairman of Labor's Committee for Truman and Barkley, of which George M. Harrison, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, is Pittsburgh.—Thomas E. Dewey, Republican candidate for the presidency, indorsed the Taft-Hartley law as a courageous measure which he's served to reduce strikes by 50 percent.

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VETERANS IN U. S. JOBS COMPRISE 45% OF TOTAL

Washington.— The Civil Service Commission reported that about 45 percent of all federal employes are veterans. The commission said its records for August showed that 565,- 001 of the 1,250,443 government employes in the continental United States were veterans. In August, 1947, veterans made up 44 percent of the federal payroll. In the same month of 1946, only 37 percent had veteran status.

USED CAR PRICES DECLINE UNDER CREDIT CONTROLS

Washington.—The Federal Reserve Board reported that used car prices have slumped since installment buying controls went into effect last month.

Cuts ranging up to $200 on the model car have been reported, officials said. The average decline, however, was considerably less—about $100. Older cars, those priced around $1,000 or less, apparently have been little affected.

The used car price drop is the most noticeable effect of the new credit controls to come to the board's attention, it was said. In general the restrictions imposed on Sept. 20 have had a "gradual braking effect" on credit expansion, as the board intended, and the public has taken the controls "in stride" with little evidence of widespread violation.

T-H Law Jurisdiction Over Construction Sought By Denham In New Legal Attack

Washington.—Bending over backwards in his efforts to exercise control under the restrictive provisions of the Taft-Hartley law, Robert N. Denham, general counsel for the National Labor Relations Board, moved legally in an attempt to hold a check on the construction industry.

Denham acted in a case involving charges of a secondary boycott against the AFL's Building and Construction Trades Council in Denver, Colo.

Federal District Judge J. Foster Symes, at Denham's request, filed a petition in equity in the NLRB's name to restrain the Denver Council and general counsel. Robert N. Denham, against a strike by AFL unionized pipefitters at a soda fountain installation job in a suburb of Denver.

Mr. Denham's office said that the strike was called by the Council to force the soda fountain's owner, H. T. Quigley, to cease doing business with the manufacturer of the fountain equipment, the Grauman Co. The Grauman firm is non-union.

Judge Symes ruled that the dispute did not affect interstate commerce, as Mr. Denham contended. Because of the court ruling a trial examiner for the NLRB dismissed the complaint on the charges of a secondary boycott against the Council.

Mr. Denham's office filed against the court decision with the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, and the new NLRB moved to dismiss the appeal, thus to reinstate charges against the council.

At the root of the case is the question of the right of Hartley Act agencies in applying to disputes having a minimum effect on interstate commerce. The Grauman firm sold $100,- 000 worth of its fountain fixtures outside the state. However, there was no contention that Mr. Quigley was engaged in interstate commerce.

Some disagreement, too, has developed between Mr. Denham and the NLRB itself as to how far the Taft-Hartley Act should check strikes. The board has indicated that it desired only to handle cases with quite a strong effect on interstate commerce to prevent a flood of cases on its desk, Washington. Mr. Denham has disagreed with this interpretation.

AFL's GLASS WORKERS WIN 10-CENT PAY HIKE

Cleveland.—Workers in plants producing flat window glass here will receive a 10-cent hourly increase under terms of a wage agreement signed by the AFL's American Flint Glass Workers Union and the National Association of Manufacturers of Pressed and Blown Glassware.

The agreement, partly settled a wage dispute in negotiation for five weeks. Still at issue is a union demand of a 10-cent hourly across-the-board rise for about 5,000 employes of mechanized plants.

Harry Cook of Toledo, who headed 75 union representatives in the bargaining sessions here, said about 3,000 hand-production workers would benefit from the pay rises granted. Improved paid vacation provisions also were obtained, said the union president.

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WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

SUPPLEMENT

WILLIAM GREEN, President — WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1948 — GEORGE MEANY, Secretary-Treasurer

LABOR'S GOAL! To Repeal Taft-Hartley Law

Green Raps Attack On Labor Movement; Sees Threat to Freedom of All Americans

Chicago.—Restrictive labor legislation which impairs the freedoms of labor threatens the freedoms of all Americans, AFL President William Green declared here.

In an address before the Executives' Club of Chicago, Mr. Green asserted that the only way in which the American way of life, the free enterprise system, can be maintained is for American labor and American business to work together against the world challenge of Communism.

Reaffirming the traditional strong position of the AFL in its opposition to Communism and all other forms of totalitarianism, the AFL spokesman warned business leaders that legislation designed "to make strong unions weak and weak unions weaker" will open the way for the Communists "to move in and take over."

Rapping the attitude of some business leaders as reflected in their support of the Taft-Hartley law, Mr. Green said:

"Instead of receiving help and encouragement from rightists put in our government, which would strengthen our hand in defense of the free enterprise system, the ground has been cut out from under us by drastic and crippling legislation."

Singling out those businessmen who welcomed the Taft-Hartley law and its invasion into the sphere of union management because they felt labor would be the chief victim, Mr. Green declared:

"To them let me say that labor cannot be dragged down without dragging down our whole free enterprise system with it.

"Restrictive legislation is not the American way. It is the way of dictators and totalitarianism. When the freedoms of labor are impaired, the freedoms of all Americans is imperiled. When the free enterprise of labor is shackled, the free enterprise of all men is in danger of being torn away from governmental chains.

"The American way, the way upon which our whole system is based, depends upon voluntary agreement and the minimum of government interference and regulation.

"Under that system, the one to which we all subscribe, the Taft-Hartley Labor faithfully adheres, labor recognizes the right of private ownership and private management of property. We acknowledge the right of capital to a fair and just return upon investment. But the right of private enterprise, ingenuity, and inventing to fair profits.

"At the same time, under our free system, labor must be accorded the right to organize into labor unions and to bargain collectively with employers regarding wages and conditions of employment. As we recognize the right of capital to invest their money or withhold their investment, so labor's right must be recognized to give its service or withhold it, without compulsion.

Mr. Green said that the outstanding problem now is to make by-passing a standard of living which is the envy of the world is the most effective answer we can make to the challenge of Communism.

"To continue to meet that challenge in the future," he said, we must maintain the security of our free enterprise system intact.

"We must reestablish the voluntary basis of management and labor relations with government regulation and restriction held down to a minimum. We must keep the area of freedom and respect to the rights of all."

Tobin Ups Minimum Pay Under Textile Contracts

Washington.—Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin raised the minimum wage for employes in the textile industry working on federal contracts from the present 40-cent hourly rate to 75 cents.

In addition, the Secretary's order set a subminimum rate of 80 cents an hour for learners in certain occupations, and 70 cents for those with their employment.

The new rates will apply to workers engaged in producing on government contracts for which bids are solicited or negotiations are commenced on or after Nov. 16. Some 800,000 wage earners are engaged in the "Textile Industry" as it is defined in the order.

Secretary Tobin's amendment is based on evidence presented by representatives of trade associations and labor unions at hearings held in Washington on July 8 at the call of Wm. R. McComb, administrator of the Wages and Hour and Public Contracts Divisions, U. S. Department of Labor. Under the Public Contracts Act, the Secretary of Labor is empowered to determine minimum wage standards for employes engaged in manufacturing or supplying materials for the government under contracts for over $10,000.

In his finding, Secretary Tobin held that the wage data presented "provide adequate support for a finding that the prevailing minimum wage in the industry is 87 cents an hour." More than 50 percent of the employes in the industry are now receiving wages above that rate. Accordingly, in making his determination of the prevailing minimum wage, the Secretary stated "particular emphasis must be placed on the rates which are paid in this predominant segment of the industry."

Walsh Warns Canada on Anti-Labor Law; Says U. S. Labor Unions Went 'to Sleep'

Victoria, British Columbia.—Richard Walsh, president of the AFL's International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, denounced Canada's Hartley law here in an address before the Canadian AFL and Labor Congress.

The AFL spokesman, who is serving as fraternal delegate from the American Federation of Labor to the Canadian TLC, told the 1,000 delegates of 400,000 workers not to let Canada pass such anti-labor legislation.

Urging vigilance against labor's foes who would hamstring the trade unions, Mr. Walsh admonished:

"Don't go to sleep like the labor movement did in the United States."

Turning to a discussion of the menace of Communism and the increasing efforts of Stalin's fifth columnists, Mr. Walsh reiterated the AFL's stand on anti-Communist position. He declared:

"We are entirely worried about Communism and what it is going to do to the labor movement. The American Federation of Labor is solidly behind Marshall Plan and it is going to stay against Communism."

Mr. Walsh said he did not object to persons having any political beliefs, but he was opposed to labor unions taking political dictation from another country.

AFL SEA UNION WINS 6% PAY RISE FOR 2,000

New York.—Nearly 2,000 members of the AFL's Masters, Mates and Pilots Union will receive a 6 percent pay increase as a result of negotiations concluded with a number of coastwise and Gulf coast oil carriers, it was announced by Capt. C. F. Macy, union president.

Capt. May said the new agreement raises relief mates' pay from $1.71 to $2.10 per hour and contains an improved vacation clause. The union president said that a number of independent tanker companies usually accept this contract as a pattern.

The union on September 30 reached an agreement with 27 Atlantic and Gulf Coast dry cargo carriers.

AFL WINDOW CLEANERS WIN $5 WEEKLY PAY HIKE

New York.—Nearly 1,000 members of Local 2 of the AFL's Window Cleaners Union here won a wage increase of $5 a week with an additional $1 increase next October 1 under terms of a new 2-year contract with employers.

The new agreement which raises the weekly minimum pay to $67 ended a 12-day strike called when employers refused to grant the union's demands.

RESTAURANT WORKERS WIN RAISE UNDER PACT

New York.—An agreement providing a wage increase of 5 cents an hour for kitchen and bar employes and 2 cents an hour for waitresses effective in the Child chain of restaurants was announced here by Joseph E. O'Grady, deputy director of the city's Labor Relations Division.

In addition, the wage increases in the agreement which is subject to ratification by Local 42 of the AFL's Chain Service Restaurant Employes Union, AFL, are retroactive. It provides additional paid holidays and a 3-week vacation for employes with 12 years' service.

FEDERAL JOBHOLDERS RISE 18,242 IN SINGLE MONTH

Washington.—Federal payrolls within the United States increased by 18,242 during August to a total of 2,048,445, the Civil Service Commission reported.

In addition, the report said, there were 218,324 federal civilian employes outside the country, making a grand total of 2,112,777.

The commission said the boarist increases were registered by the Post Office Department, with 8,136; Navy, 4,770; Veterans Administration, 2,909, and Army, 1,966.

Attack On Social Security By Hoover Group Exposed

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
New York Correspondent for AFL News Service

New York.—The Committee for the Nation's Health disclosed that the forthcoming report of the Hoover Commission on Government Reorganization "will be a frontal attack on labor's hard-won gains of the last decade."

Basing its expose on inside information obtained from confidential sources, the committee, of which President William Green and Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt are honorary vice-chairmen, charged that the social security system in particular would be the target of the Hoover Commission assault.

On the committee's board of directors are AFL Executive Council member Matthew Woll and Nelson Cruikshank, director of social insurance activities for the AFL.

Earlier President Green had attacked the qualifications of Lewis Meriam of the Brookings Institution who heads the Hoover Commission section on health and social security.

The Committee for the Nation's Health backed up President Green's criticism by citing Meriam's record—author of a book "attacking the social security system and advocating a return to the days of the dole". The committee also accused Meriam of helping direct a Brookings report which "misrepresented the national health program of legislation before Congress steadfastly advocated by the American Federation of Labor."

The committee further charged that an ironclad censorship had been clamped over the work of the Hoover Commission so as to prevent any leakage of its proposals from emerging before Election Day.

"The Brookings report," according to the expert medical economists on the Committee for the Nation's Health, "is nothing less than bias parading as science. Instead of a health insurance program, it would bring adequate medical care within the reach of every worker and his family only after a long, expensive attack upon the program itself.

"The Brookings report pretends to examine in an impartial way the two national health plans that were before Congress. The National Health Insurance bill, endorsed by this committee and AFL, medical, professional, farm, veterans and women groups works on the American system of insurance. Each worker pays a small premium for himself and his family from the doctor of his choice. It would end our present medical chaos.

"The other bill, sponsored by Senators Taft and Ball, as a 'political substitute' was favored by the Brookings group. It is based on reactionary views of its leading author, despite the fact that it offers medical care only to those willing to take a pauper's oath. Instead of adequate medical care, all this substitute bill offers the American worker is 'poor man's medicine.' Yet this is the bill which the Brookings Institution, under Meriam's 'impartial' study, favors."

The Committee for the Nation's Health was formed following Administrator Ewing's recent report to the President as a sound health program. The 10-year program is based on the recommendations made by Congressional committees of other groups after the 1946 Public Health Assembly last spring. In his report, Ewing declared that national health insurance is the best way to bring adequate medical care within the reach of all.

Keenan Says Democrats Will Win Senate; LLPE Head Sees T-H Law Spurring Drive

Washington.—The director of Labor's League for Political Education, Joseph D. Keenan, predicted that the Democrats will gain control of the Senate in the November elections.

Mr. Keenan made his prediction upon his return from a trip through the Middle and Far West during which he attended 27 state conventions.

Declaring that the Taft-Hartley law had spurred labor forces to intensify their political activities, Mr. Keenan said:

"At these conventions delegates from every section where the labor vote has been involved explained to their fellow delegates how this law would work. To many delegates this was the second time they have had to been no "horrible examples" of the effects of the Taft-Hartley Act in their communities.

"All these conventions the delegates matched their experiences and as a result our appeal for increased political activity is being heeded."

Mr. Keenan felt certain that Senators Joseph R. Ball of Minnesota and Robert Kenyon of Wisconsin, West Virginia would be defeated. He also asserted that certain probable candidates would be named to the Senate from Arizona, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Wyoming and possibly from Idaho, California and Washington.

As to the votes for members of the House, Mr. Keenan declared he was that 51 anti-Taft-Hartley advocates had "better than an even chance to win."

Although deeply immersed in current political affairs, Mr. Keenan added that he was looking forward to the opening of the new $250,000 addition of Labor's political arm in the near future. "It will be prepared for all eventualities."

"To defeat the league after the November elections would be suicidal," he said, "for the votes of many of the federation leaders who see the importance of year-round political activity by labor."

Plan to Aid Europe's Lack of Manpower Released By International Labor Office

Geneva.—The contribution that the International Labor Organization is prepared to make to expand labor use in the future to the solution of Europe's manpower problems was outlined in a statement by David A. Morse, Director-General of the ILO.

The statement listed the measures among the things the ILO has done to study and to meet one of the problem of maintaining a high level of employment:

1. Establishment of a world clearing house for information on the change of information on manpower needs and surpluses.

2. Initial work on the definition and classification of occupations to facilitate the recruiting of workers in one country for employment in another.

3. The collection of statistics on total migration.

4. Revision of the ILO's 1939 Convention on Migration for Employment, and the recommendations related to it.

5. Circulating among governments of a model migration agreement, and the adoption of this agreement for the use of European countries in particular.

6. A study of workers housing questions as they affect manpower.

7. A study of the detailed organization of employment services.

Mr. Morse said that the ILO had sent a questionnaire to its European member countries, the three western zones of Germany, and the international refugee organization requesting information on manpower requirements and surpluses. Questionnaires will be sent out at three month intervals.

The information received is being made available to governments, and also to non-European governments through the International Labor Office.

The statement added that the ILO was also considering the sending out of a questionnaire to non-European countries seeking information on their manpower requirements and on definitions of occupations.

Mr. Morse listed a number of ways in which the ILO was prepared to give additional assistance, if it were requested.

The ILO would be prepared, he said, to undertake in any appropriate way in the further investigation of the most effective methods for using European manpower to fulfill the productive programs of the European countries and their overseas territories.

The statement said the ILO was also prepared to cooperate in studies relating to the recruiting and selection of foreign workers, to vocational guidance and training to prepare for migration, to some aspects of the question of the social adaptation of emigrants and their families, and to social security for migrants.

NEW YORK TEACHERS SEEK PAY HIKE, NEW SCHOOLS

Syracuse, N. Y.—The Empire State Federation of Teachers Unions approved a legislative program calling for a $1,200 salary increase and the construction of additional schools and educational facilities with the cost to be underwritten by a $200,000,000 state appropriation.

Closing its convention here, the federation voted to seek legislative limits of 30 pupils in regular classes, 20 in under-privileged classes, and 15 in shops. It also urged the establishment of nursery schools and child care centers under the supervision of the boards of education, and recommended "broadened scholarships."

ITU Held in Contempt of Court For Insistence on Closed Shop

NLRB Machinery Fails Completely; Plan to Poll 2,500,000 Builders Halted

Washington.—Plans of Robert N. Denham, general counsel for the National Labor Relations Board, to conduct union shop elections among the nation's 2,500,000 building tradesmen at an estimated cost of $1,500,000 have begun to look perplexing.

The NLRB suspended its preparations to conduct a second test vote in the Detroit when the Home Builders Association refused to participate. Then after 10 months of work and the expenditure of a large sum of public money the administrative machinery of the NLRB has stopped cold with the task required of it under the Taft-Hartley law.

The development came as no surprise to Richard J. Gray, president of the AFL's Building and Construction Trades Department. At the time the law was passed, Mr. Gray predicted that any attempt to hold union shop polls among building tradesmen would merely result in the wastage of huge sums of the taxpayers' money. Mr. Gray's contribution to the industry has operated on a closed shop basis, now outlawed by the Taft-Hartley law, the outcome of any such election was never in doubt, Mr. Gray contended.

In support of his position, Mr. Gray referred to the vote of the majority of the Senate-House "Watchdog" Committee on Labor and Welfare who see the operation of the Taft-Hartley law. The committee report stated that the provision calling for the union shop elections was not working and that confusion among the employees to be deleted from the law. In spite of this report, hearings held last spring to consider several proposed amendments to the law were adjourned without further action.

The formula for the conduct of the elections among the construction trades called for area polls, within by union. There are 600 to 700 areas; some of them state-wide. Cooperating employers supplied the names and addresses of workers, lists which were checked by the government and the unions to determine eligibility and eliminate duplications.

The first test election was conducted among employees of heavy construction and road building concerns in western Pennsylvania. Five unions were on the ballot and 2,700 workers were eligible to vote. Twenty-five teams of NLRB employees conducted the elections. Eighty-one percent of the eligible voters participated, and industry has operated on a closed shop basis, now outlawed by the Taft-Hartley law, the outcome of any such election was never in doubt, Mr. Gray contended.

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The Detroit election was to test the machinery for an area-wide poll of all kinds of building trade construction. With the withdrawal of the home builders, Denham said it was now impossible to conduct an election under the area theory because too many line cross in the industry.

LLPE Radio Show Line-Up To Include Arnold, Reagan

Washington.—Edward Arnold and Ronald Reagan will head a group of Hollywood stars who are scheduled to participate in a nationwide radio broadcast in behalf of the labor political campaign to be broadcast on October 26 under the auspices of Labor's League for Political Education.

The program, which will be carried over the American Broadcasting Company network from 10 to 10:30 p.m., Eastern Time will, in addition to its entertainment portions, feature talks by AFL President William Green and Secretary-Treasurer George Meany.

Arrangements have been made to follow up the network broadcast with local radio programs in key localities in behalf of labor's congressional candidates endorsed by the league, which is the political arm of the American Federation of Labor.

Time for the program has been purchased by the LLPE in its campaign to bring home to the American people the importance of voting, and voting intelligently, in the November 2 elections.

The talents of the Hollywood stars and famous radio performers are made available for use on the program through the cooperation of the AFL's American Federation of Radio Artists and its executive secretary, George Heller.

Don't fail to listen to this topnotch broadcast and to other AFL broadcasts heard over various radio networks. Each Sunday until November 7 the AFL will sponsor a broadcast featuring "Labor's United Nations" on the NBC network which is heard from 1 to 1:30 p.m., Eastern Time. On Tuesday evenings the regular broadcast from 10:45 to 11 p.m. will be heard over the ABC network. This program features a string orchestra with interesting and educational messages from the American Federation of Labor.

Consult your local newspapers for the exact time of the broadcasts in your community.

Employment Drop Reported By Census; Back-to-School Movement Is Chief Cause

Washington.—The Census Bureau reported a drop in total employment for the week ending September 4 when it released figures for September showing a decline of 933,000 to a total of 61,000,000.

The bureau's report was not alarming, however, since the drop in employment was caused by the back-to-school movement at the end of the summer vacation period.

The number of job holders stayed above 60,000,000, something that has never happened before in September when school reopenings cause the figure to drop off from August near to and year out.

More job holders actually are at work in September than in August. The vacation season was in full tide in August, but schools were actually on the job. At work in September were 57,676,000, or 1,074,000 more than in August.

The bureau figures related strictly to civilians. In addition, there were 1,560,000 drafted into the armed forces.

Factory employment, reversing the course of the previous two months, went up in September.

The nonfarming decline was 1,211,000 from August, but was still large, up to a total of 51,890,000. That figure, the bureau noted, was "still as high or higher than at any time prior to this year."

Farm employment rose 279,000 to September total of 8,710,000. Chief reasons: An unusually early start in the cotton picking style tobacco and fruit and vegetable harvestings were still getting on. In some areas, there was also land preparation for seeding of fall grains.

$6,000 HOUSE GREAT NEED, U. S. HOUSING CHIEFS SAY

Washington.—The nation's housing chiefs emphasized again the need for adequate housing in the $6,000 price range.

"About half the families in America are restricted by their incomes to that price or less," the chiefs said in a joint confidence," said Raymond M. Foley, Housing and Home Finance Administrator.

Foley's views were echoed by Franklin D. Richards, Commissioner of the Federal Housing Administration and Tighe E. Woods, National Housing Expediter, in articles written for the Evening Star.

Woods put the average annual income of nonfarm families at about $3,000 and said this means: "The average family can't afford to pay more than $6,000 to $7,500 for a home."

AFL's BOTTLE STOKERS WIN NEW WAGE BOOST

Atlantic City, N. J.—The AFL's International Cola Bottle Stokers Association won a wage increase of from $2 to $4 a week for some 1,000 members in negotiations with the American Bottling Company.

Lee W. Minton of Philadelphia, international president of the union, said a new contract granting the wage increase was unanimously adopted at 3 days of negotiations.

Mr. Minton said a 2-year contract was signed by the union with the company, which maintains 16 factories throughout the country. The union head said the new wage contract would be effective Nov. 1 and could be reopened for wage discussions every 6 months.

Altogether, Mr. Minton said, 22 changes were made in the contract, most of them calling for improved working conditions.

Chicago Strike Benefits Not Banned by Order; Union Will Appeal

Indianapolis.—The International Typographical Union and its 4 top officers were held guilty of contempt of court by Federal Judge Luther M. Swygert for its insistence on the maintainance of closed shop conditions in contracts with newspaper publishers despite the ban on such practices contained in his injunction issued against the union last March.

In Washington, Henry Kaiser, attorney for the ITU, said the union would ask a stay of Judge Swygert's order pending an appeal. Claiming partial victory in the case, Mr. Kaiser declared that it appeared that Mr. Denham has "completely failed in his shameful attempt to break the Chicago strike."

Judge Swygert's order does not constitute the first payment of benefits to striking Chicago ITU members, he told the attorneys for the National Labor Relations Board. The judge said he did not outlaw the demands of the union but only the demands of the union by union foremen. The opinion of the court was drawn between title or no objection by publishers to the employment of union foremen.

No penalties were imposed upon the ITU, its president, Woodruff Randolph, or 3 other officers, but they were ordered to submit a sworn statement to the government showing the steps to be taken in order to comply with the court ruling, and to appear in court within 10 days and demonstrate that they have in face complied with the order.

The judge's decree directed the union and its officers "to purge themselves of their contempt of the court" by taking the following action:

Cease instructing the ITU to give effect to contract clauses which would cause or attempt to cause employers to discriminate against non-union employes by requiring them to pay tests of competency not required of union members, by limiting apprentice voting in the ITU, its subordinate unions, or by collective contract over the selection and advancement of apprentices, or by the establishment of a procedure to break the votes of committee members in case of disagreement.

Cease and desist from instructing local unions to demand adherence to "form contracts which will in effect result in the employment of foremen who are not members of the ITU, and hereafter, "will not approve any contract entered into containing such clauses or provisions."

Cease and desist, called, as the NLRB General Counsel had asked, that the government's contempt charge "in all good faith litigation."

Turning to the brief against the NLRB's argument that the employment of union members by the closed shop failure to extend preferential hiring to veterans.

"This is may be that union foremen," the court said, "but the law requires against non-union printers, it cannot be said that union foremen would result invariably in discriminatory practices. Such discrimination would not be overlooked that the foreman is selected by the employer, and is the latter's subordinate."

Further, the court said the terms "the government contended the government's argument that the incompetency of non-union job applicants was apparent from the contracts between the publishers and ITU local 6, which were drawn by a joint party, namely, disinterested arbitrators appointed by the Chicago Board of Education, who must follow procedures established by the Board of Printers Apprentices of New York, were drawn by New City publishers' contract is in violation of any provision of the statute."

SHEET METAL UNION LEADER HONORED FOR LONG SERVICE

New York.—Moe Rosen, one of the best known figures in New York labor circles and a vice-president of the Central Trades and Labor Council, was honored here at a testimonial dinner on his completion of 32 years of service to the labor movement. Rosen is secretary of Local 137, Sheet Metal Workers Union.

AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany attended and Robert Byron, general president of the Sheet Metal Workers International, was toastmaster.